Delaware Division of the Arts & Delaware State Arts Council 1969-2019

50th Anniversary Report



Bringing the Arts to Life

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- The Freeman Stage
- Delaware Dance Company

Cover image:

"Embers Spark Fire" (detail), brooch, Kaitlyn Evans, Individual Artist Fellow in Crafts, 2019



From the Chair

Two-thousand and nineteen is a landmark year for the arts in Delaware. The Delaware Arts Alliance is celebrating its 10th anniversary, the Delaware Division of the Arts is celebrating its 30th anniversary, and I am proud to chair the Delaware State Arts Council as we celebrate 50 years of supporting the arts in Delaware. All three of these organizations work in conjunction with each other, and with many others in the public and private sectors throughout the state, to support a vibrant and diverse arts community for the benefit of the citizens of Delaware and beyond.

The arts in Delaware are flourishing. We enjoy top-quality music, theatre, dance, opera, and visual arts. There is an abundance of talented and creative people in our small state, and all Delawareans are the beneficiaries of that talent and creativity. We are a state that recognizes and appreciates the economic impact of the arts. The nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$149.9 million industry in the State of Delaware, supporting more than 4,000 full-time-equivalent jobs. We are fortunate in Delaware that our governor, first lady, state legislature and secretary of state are all very supportive of the arts in



our state. The arts are a great investment for the state, generating over \$10 million in local and state government revenue. We support programs and activities that make the arts accessible to people from all areas of the state, all economic and cultural backgrounds, and all ages.

Beyond the numbers, we also know that the arts and cultural resources in Delaware enhance quality of life for all Delawareans. School students participating in the arts see improved academic performance and higher graduation rates. There are also health benefits for our seniors and others participating in the arts, ranging from art therapy to activities that improve mental and physical health.

The arts spark creativity and innovation in our society. They bring energy and economic life to communities, large and small, throughout the state. As the American artist Robert Motherwell once said, "Art is much less important than life, but what a poor life without it." We have a richness and vibrancy of life in Delaware, thanks to our healthy arts and cultural sector.

It is all here for your enjoyment and enrichment. I encourage all Delawareans and visitors to our state to go out and enjoy the rich diversity and high quality of art and cultural activities available throughout the state. Congratulations to the Delaware Arts Alliance, the Delaware Division of the Arts, and the Delaware State Arts Council on their significant milestones in supporting the arts and quality of life in Delaware. My wish is for many more years in their roles in making Delaware a wonderful place to live, work, and visit.

J. Mack Wathen

Chair, Delaware State Arts Council

Mack Wather

THOMAS R. CARPER DELAWARE



February 19, 2019

Delaware Division of the Arts 820 N French St, 4th Floor Wilmington, DE 19801

Dear Friends,

I have recently heard that the Delaware Division of the Arts is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Congratulations on reaching such an extraordinary milestone!

Your branch is an asset to the state, as it has had an exceptional impact through its dedication to cultivating art and in so enhancing the lives of Delawareans. Your many initiatives to make art accessible to all people in our state including, the Delaware Art Summit, work with the Delaware Poets Laureate Nnamdi Chukwuocha and Albert Mills, and numerous grant programs have changed our community for the better. Please accept my personal thanks for your historic legacy of service, and I am confident that many more years of success are still to come.

Again, congratulations on this achievement and thank you for all that you do for the state of Delaware! Best wishes for continued success! On to 40!

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Thomas R. Carper United States Senator CHRISTOPHER A. COONS DELAWARE

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0805

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

ETHICS SELECT COMMITTEE

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMITTEE

February 26, 2019

Delaware Division of the Arts 820 N. French Street Fourth Floor Wilmington, DE 19806

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the Delaware Division of the Arts. A vibrant Delaware needs a strong arts community, and that requires a dedicated office like the Delaware Division of the Arts to cultivate and support access to the arts for all throughout the state. For the past 30 years, you have enhanced the quality of life for Delawareans, enriched our state, supported artists and art teachers, and promoted beauty. One of the parts I enjoy most about my job is ensuring the arts and humanities receive strong federal support because I believe investing in the arts makes sense--both financially and culturally.

Modest amounts invested in the arts yield enormous benefits to our community and our spirits. Delaware has a long history of supporting artists ranging from Howard Pyle & Ed Loper to Clifford Brown & Cab Calloway. With the ongoing support of your office, I believe Delaware will continue to thrive as a community because we understand the value of art. I cannot wait to see, hear, and experience the next generation of artists in Delaware whose aspirations were ignited because of your programs and their spirits were lit because they were introduced to art through your support.

This occasion honors not only the work the Delaware Division of Arts has completed over the last 30 years, but also celebrates the future of arts in Delaware. Most of us, whether we know it or not, have been personally touched by projects funded by your organization; even my Senate office proudly displays some of the works of art that have been created thanks to the Division of Arts.

As you mark this cheerful occasion, I want to again thank you for everything you have done for this community over the last 30 years.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Coons

United States Senator

WILMINGTON ADDRESS: 1105 N. MARKET STREET SUITE 100 WILMINGTON, DE 19801 (302) 573-6345

DOVER ADDRESS 500 WEST LOOCKERMAN STREET SUITE 450 (302) 736-5601

CONGRESSWOMAN LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

DELAWARE AT-LARGE

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ASSISTANT WHIP

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

July, 2019

As the Congresswoman for Delaware, I would like to congratulate Delaware Division of the Arts on 30 years of cultivating and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans.

Over the past 30 years, Delaware Division of the Arts has increased access to the arts for all Delawareans and increased awareness through communities and education. President John F. Kennedy once said, "If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him." I believe the Delaware Division of the Arts has helped each constituent follow their vision and enrich our state.

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to all of the employees and volunteers at Delaware Division of the Arts. Every day you provide services to Delawareans and help make our state a great place to live.

Again, I extend my congratulations to Delaware Division of the Arts for 30 years of exceptional service, and I wish for another prosperous 30 years!

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Lisa Blunt Rochester

United States Representative



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JOHN CARNEY GOVERNOR TATNALL BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD SOUTH DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

PHONE (302) 744-4101 FAX (302) 739-2775

March 1, 2019

Dear Friends,

Thirty years ago, the Delaware State Arts Council became the Division of the Arts within the Department of State as we know it today. Since that time, this Division has allowed the arts to flourish on every level, enhancing the lives of countless Delawareans. Through its wide variety of programming, educational initiatives, and grants, the Division of the Arts has made the arts more engaging and accessible for each and every citizen.

I want to thank the many dedicated individuals of the Division of the Arts whose hard work continues to make the arts successful in our State. I am proud to wish the Delaware Division of the Arts a very Happy 30th Anniversary, and offer best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

John C. Carney

Governor, State of Delaware



according to its enabling legislation, shall be composed of not more than 15 members, shall represent the state geographically and politically, and members shall be appointed based on their interest and experience in the arts.

Delaware Division of the Arts

The Division of the Arts is an agency of the State of Delaware. Together with its advisory body, the Delaware State Arts Council, the Division administers grants and programs that support arts programming, educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life. Funding for Division programs is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Photos Clockwise from Bottom Left:

- Sculpture by Arturo Bassols, Lewes, 1975
- Saxophonist Earle Brown, July 1971
- Betsy Ferris and Gloria Von Berg discuss costume sketches for a performance at The Playhouse, June 1970



On March 31, 1969, Governor Russell W. Peterson signed Executive Order Number Three creating the Delaware State Arts Council. The Executive Department felt that the general welfare of Delaware citizens would be promoted by giving further recognition to the arts as a vital part of our cultural heritage and as a valued means of improving our educational programs. It was felt that exposure to excellence in the arts improves the quality of life and inspires our children and our schools to reach for excellence in all fields of personal endeavor.

The act was the culmination of the work of a small committee appointed by Governor Charles L. Terry, Jr. in 1966 to "survey the arts needed and form state programming in the arts." Mrs. C. Douglass (Polly) Buck, Jr. was appointed the first chairman of the Council. Craig Gilborn was its first executive director. A staff of three and a small core of volunteers carried out the work of the agency, supporting local organizations by funding projects and programs in the visual and performing arts.

The Council, then and today, must consist of no more than 15 members broadly representative of all fields of the performing and fine arts. Each member is appointed by the governor for a term of three years, with no member serving more than two consecutive terms, except the chairman, who serves at the pleasure of the governor.

In 1978, in order to incorporate the arts program more directly into the structure of government, Governor Pierre du Pont signed Executive Order Number Fifty, which made the Council one of the four bureaus of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. The Council advised the Division on arts programs and concerns, and it evaluated all grant applications for the Division.

The Division's responsibilities included providing technical and professional assistance to arts programs for individuals, organizations, and institutions of the state. The Division also handled gifts, contributions, and bequests from the private or public sectors and appropriations and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and other government agencies that encourage and promote the arts. In addition, the Division took over the administrative and budgetary responsibilities of the Council. The arts program and the staff of the Arts Council became known as the Office of the Arts of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

In 1989, the Council experienced a major reorganization. In that year, the Division of the Arts was created within the Department of State as an advisory agency to coordinate and implement promotion of the arts in Delaware. The 1989 legislation also required the Division director to establish a special fund to encourage governmental entities and private organizations in the development of the arts.

The Division continues to exercise the same functions as the Office of the Arts had done. The Council was given a more clearly defined advisory role; it now provides guidance to the Division director on matters of arts policy and it considers matters referred by the governor, secretary of state, and the Division director. The Council continues to be composed of 15 members appointed by the governor for three-year terms.

Photos Clockwise from Top Center:

- Barbara Govatos, 18, took 1st Place in the Annual Young Musician's Contest at the Jewish Community Center in Talleyville, DE, Feb 1977
- Benjamin Britt (left) and Mrs. Reba Dickerson (right) pause before her painting "Study in Copper and Bronze," Feb 1971
- Dance Theater of Harlem Ballet at the Grand Opera House, 1974



Select Highlights 1969-2019

 1969 - Delaware State Arts Council (DSAC) created by Governor Russell W. Peterson, thanks to funding provided in part by the National Endowment for the Arts (established 1965)

1970 + Inaugural Governor's Awards for the Arts

1977 - Artline newsletter established

ARTLINE

1979 - Gallery I, now known as the Mezzanine Gallery, established

1979 - Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation established to promote and support arts programming in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, the US Virgin Islands, Virginia, and West Virginia

1980 - Individual Artist Fellowship grant category established

1988 - Art Loop Wilmington, a Wilmington Arts Commission and DSAC-supported endeavor to connect participating art galleries, established

1989 - House Bill No. 331 established the new Division of the Arts within the Department of State

1993 - The Arts Consortium of Delaware (ArtCo), an endowment managed by the Delaware Community

Foundation, was founded to support capital expenses for Delaware arts organizations

1995 - Start of partnership with Division of Libraries to support the performances of artists in all libraries throughout the state, in conjunction with the Summer Library Reading Program

1997 - Inaugural Arts Summit



1998 | Division begins Delaware State of the Arts podcast

2000 - Start of partnership with the Biggs Museum of
American Art to promote the Division's Individual
Artist Fellowship award winners. Through exhibitions,
readings, performances, public receptions, and
education programs, the Biggs provides access to these
artists and their artwork throughout the state

2003 - "March for the Arts in Education" month established by Senate Bill No. 116

2004 - Artist Roster established

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Grants to Organizations

The Division offers a variety of grants for Delaware nonprofit arts organizations, as well as for organizations, colleges, universities, and government entities that present arts programming or activities but do not have the arts as their primary mission.



General Operating Support

General Operating Support (GOS) grants support the annual operating expenses to ensure that year-round participation in the arts is available to the people of Delaware. A three-year application cycle permits grantees and the Division to focus more attention on the delivery of programs and services and less on the preparation, processing, and review of grant applications.

Organizations approved for GOS demonstrate a history of programming, service to their community, and management of their operations that provide confidence that a similar level of service or activity may be sustained over a three-year period without requiring a full application and review each year.

Arts Stabilization

Arts Stabilization (ASF) grants support improvements to facilities owned or under a long-term lease and operated by the grantee organization. ASF grants are funded through the Division's participation in the Arts Consortium of Delaware, Inc. (ArtCo) endowment.

StartUp Program

StartUp (STU) is a comprehensive program of financial support, training, and consultation that aims to develop and strengthen the management capacity of emerging arts organizations. Begun in 2011, the Division has awarded 21 STU grants to organizations as a prerequisite to receiving General Operating Support.



Education Resource

Education Resource (EDR) grants assist in the facilitation of partnerships between Delaware's schools, arts organizations, and artists to provide standards-based arts learning experiences for Pre-K—12 students statewide, as well as professional development opportunities for teaching artists and educators. Education Resource projects focus on ways that Delaware arts organizations can serve as a resource to Delaware schools before, during, and after the school day.

Project Support

Project Support (PS) grants provide funding for arts programs operated by community-based organizations that are growing a vibrant cultural environment and encouraging development of arts activities in communities throughout the state.

Arts Access

Arts Access (ACC) grants support small-budget projects that include the presentation of performing, visual, literary, media, or folk arts in communities throughout the state. Since its inception, more than 300 ACC grants* have been awarded.

*Arts Access also includes the following retired grant programs: Opportunity Grants for Community Based Organizations, Detours, Emerging Organizations, and Presentation Arts Organizations.



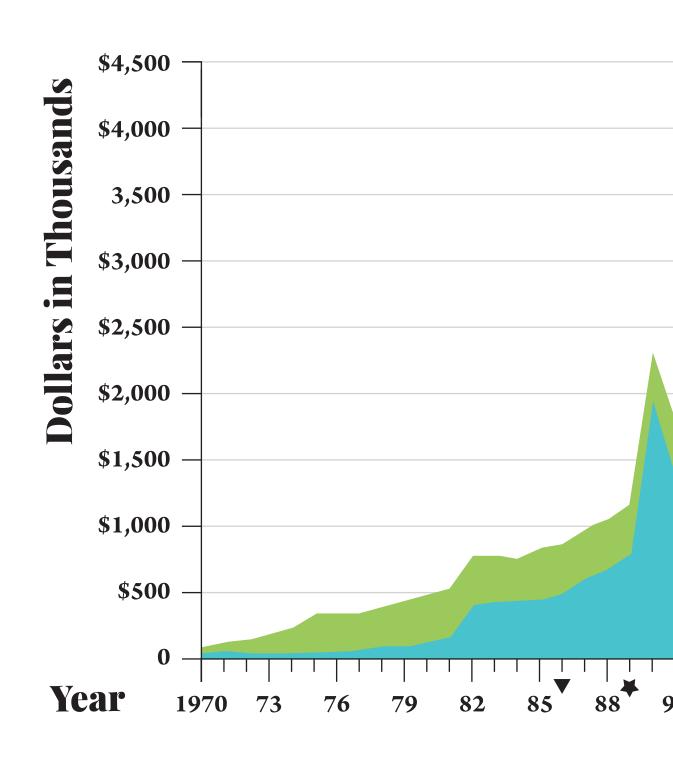
Photos on Right Page from Top to Bottom, Left to Right

- Rehoboth Summer Children's Theatre, 2016
- First State Ballet Theatre, The Nutcracker

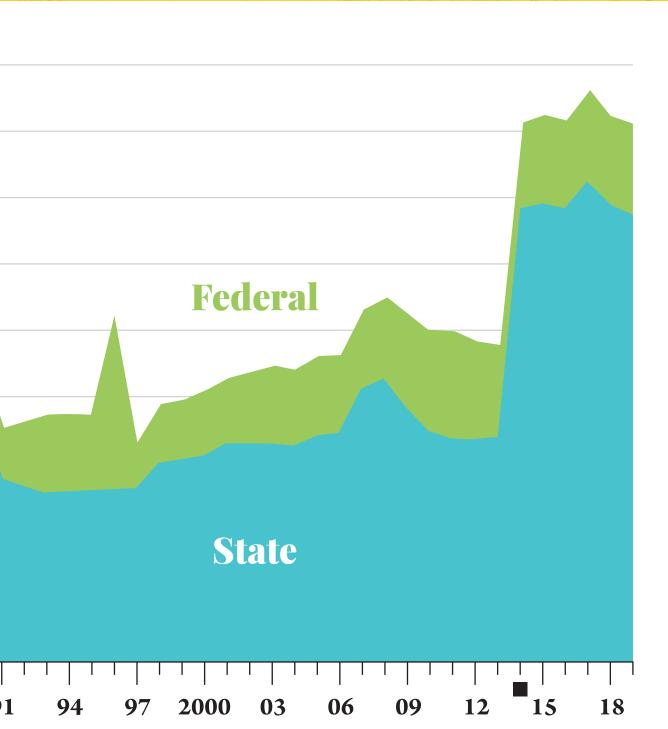


- Delaware Art Museum youth program, 2007
- Rehoboth Art League class at Brandywine Senior Living, 2017

Grant Funding Levels 1970-2019



- ▼ 1986 One-time contribution of \$750,000 to Arts Stabilization Fund (ArtCo)
- ♣ 1989 Creation of the Delaware Division of the Arts as a state agency within the Department of State.
- 2014 Creation of the Delaware Arts Trust Fund (\$1.6m) to support economic activity and jobs in the arts sector.



Delaware Arts Council OK's

\$150,000 for performing arts

Grants & Services to Individual Artists

The Division offers two grants for artists, including individual artist fellowships and opportunity grants open to Delaware residents 18 years of age or older who are not enrolled in a degree-granting program. In addition, the Division manages the Mezzanine Gallery in Wilmington, hosts an online Artist Roster database of artists and teaching artists from Delaware, and organizes a biennial Writers' Retreat.

Total Number of Fellowships Awarded by Category (1980-Present)				
Emerging	Established	Masters	Total	
219	275	15	509	
\$524,000	\$1,439,000	\$150,000	\$2,113,000	

Individual Artist Fellowships

Delaware's Individual Artist Fellowships (IAF) recognize artists for their outstanding quality of work and provide monetary awards. The Division offers fellowships in the artistic disciplines of choreography, folk art, jazz, literature, media arts, music, and visual arts.

The awards—\$3,000 for Emerging Artists, \$6,000 for Established Professionals, and \$10,000 for Masters— allow for artists to pursue advanced training, purchase equipment and materials, or meet other costs to advance their careers.

Bottom Photos from Left to Right:

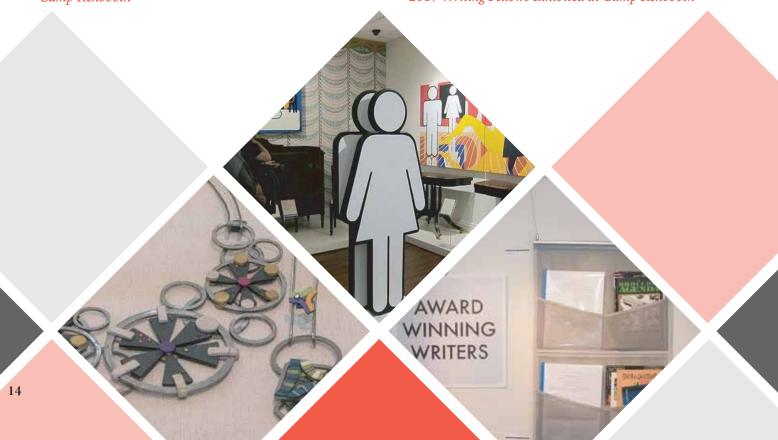
• Work by Arden Bardol, 2017 Fellowship Exhibition, Camp Rehoboth

Artist Opportunity

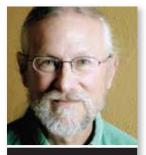
Artist Opportunity grants are awarded on a competitive basis and provide up to \$750 to support unique professional and artistic development or presentation opportunities. As of Fiscal Year 2019, 295 grants totaling more than \$182,000 have been awarded to 193* artists to advance their careers.

*Delaware artists may receive more than one Artist Opportunity grant

- Work by Tom Newby, 2015 Fellowship Exhibition, Biggs Museum of American Art
- 2017 Writing Fellows exhibited at Camp Rehoboth



Delaware Masters Fellows



Chuck Holdeman *Music: Composition*



Stephen Tanis Visual Arts: Painting



Timothy Clinch Music: Solo Recital



Lisa Bartolozzi Visual Arts: Painting



Roz Unruh Literature: Fiction

2000

2002

2003

2005

2007



Alida Fish Visual Arts: Photography



Christiaan Taggart Music: Solo Recital



Richard Rothrock Visual Arts: Sculpture



Xiang Gao Music: Solo Recital



Carson Zullinger Visual Arts: Photography

2008

2009

2011

2012

2014



Kimberly Reighley *Music: Solo Recital*



Ramona D. Long *Literature: Fiction*



Yolanda Chetwynd Visual Arts: Painting



Lloyd Shorter *Music: Solo Recital*



Billie TravaliniLiterature: Fiction

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

Mezzanine Gallery

The Council and the Division have been administering art exhibitions in the Carvel State Office Building in Wilmington since 1978. Since then, two galleries have featured over 500 exhibitions of work in a variety of disciplines including painting, photography, sculpture, crafts, folk, and media arts.

Originally called Gallery I, the Mezzanine Gallery presents
Delaware artists in solo exhibitions. The opportunity is available
to Delaware Individual Artist Fellowship winners or to artists who
have been chosen by the Division's annual Gallery Panel.
Exhibitions are rotated on a monthly basis for a total of 11 per
year. Each artist receives individually designed email invitations,
an opening or closing reception, extensive media coverage, and
commission-free sales.

The now retired Gallery II, located on the main floor of the Carvel State Office Building, featured non-juried exhibitions of work by individual artists, arts organizations, Individual Artist Fellows, and projects from the former Arts in Education program.



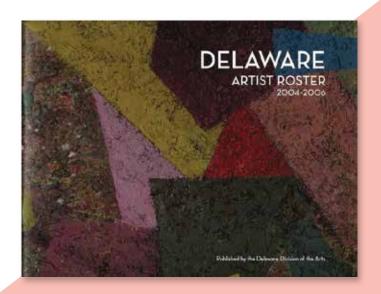
Background (left): Carvel State Office Building,1978 (right): Ann Scott Clark "Sterling & Acrylic," 1986

Artist Roster

The Artist Roster began as a print directory of literary, media, performing, and visual artists who live and work in Delaware and are available to exhibit, perform, or present programs in venues across the state.

Compiled by the Division, the Artist Roster was designed to serve as a resource for performing arts centers, galleries, colleges, festivals, schools, parks, civic organizations, businesses, municipal government, and any other group that presents the work of artists within their community. In 2018, the Division expanded the roster to include artists who have an interest in teaching in the schools as well as in arts and community organizations.

Since 2006, the Artist Roster has resided online as a searchable database. It is still connecting artists with groups in need of talent. For more information, visit Delaware.gov/artistroster.





Writers Retreat

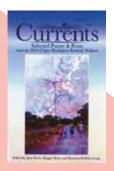
Since its inception in 2002 under Delaware Poet Laureate Dr. Fleda Brown and its continuation under her successor Dr. JoAnn Balingit, the Writers Retreat has welcomed over 150 attendees from around the state. Every two years, the Division has hosted a low-cost, multi-day Writers Retreat with assistance from the Poet Laureate.

The retreat gives participants time to write and time with workshop leaders to develop their craft. The application process is competitive, with participants chosen based on the merit of their writing submissions in an anonymous review process. A noteworthy outcome from the program has been the publication of several anthologies featuring writing by Writers Retreat participants.

Photo (left):
• Dr. Fleda Brown

Photo (right):
• "Currents,"
selected poetry
and prose from
2014 Writers
Retreat







Seated (left to right): Mahasveta "Gita" Barua, Kate Zak, Wendy Schermer, Maria Masington, Mary-Margaret Pauer, Jean Davis, JoAnn Balingit (poetry workshop leader), Elizabeth Evans, Liz Rose Dolan, Jane Miller

Standing (left to right): Barbara Gray, Alice Elliott Dark (prose workshop leader), Kimberly Nishell, Ramona Long, Larry Kelts, Joanne Reinbold, Kathy Maas, Phil Linz

Grants & Services for Schools

The Division offers a variety of grants for Delaware Pre-K-12 public, charter, private, and parochial schools that offer arts activities and programming. In addition, the Division has participated in the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation competition since its statewide inception in 2006.

Artist Residency

Since 1971, under the original name Artists-in-Schools, the Division has sponsored residencies of visual, literary, performing, or media artists working with students in public, charter, private, and parochial schools or in professional development workshops for teachers throughout the state. Each residency must meet the following goals:

- 1. Actively engage students in the creative process with a professional artist
- 2. Provide new arts knowledge and skills to classroom teachers and arts specialists
- 3. Facilitate teaching opportunities for teaching artists

A 2019 Artist Residency grant allowed Las Américas ASPIRA Academy to bring Delaware Institute for Arts in Education artist Yolanda Chetwynd to the school multiple times to teach printmaking to more than 100 third-graders. The final meeting allowed students to visit the Delaware Art Museum with Ms. Chetwynd to see how professionals use the printmaking press. It also gave students the opportunity to learn three new printmaking techniques and to display their final artwork at the museum's studio gallery.







Education Resource

Education Resource (EDR) grants assist in the facilitation of partnerships between Delaware's schools, arts organizations, and artists to provide standards-based arts learning experiences for Pre-K–12 students statewide, as well as professional development opportunities for teaching artists and educators. Education Resource projects focus on ways that Delaware arts organizations can serve as resources to Delaware schools before, during, and after the school day.

Photos from Top to Bottom:

- The Chuck Davis Dance Company, Wilmington Public Schools residency, 1975
- Delaware Institute for Arts in Education
- The Delaware Symphony Orchestra's "Math and Music" program at Warner Elementary School



TranspARTation

Started in 2016, TranspARTation grants support transportation costs for schools that bring students to Delaware arts venues and cultural institutions for events, exhibitions, and performances. Live art performances and exhibitions provide opportunities for learning in the arts that foster creativity and innovation. In many cases, a school field trip may be the first time a student is provided with such an experience.

TranspARTation Grants Awarded - FY 2016 to 2019					
Year	Number of Grants Awarded	Number of Children/Youth Engaged (0-18 years)			
2019	27	1,382			
2018	24	4,599			
2017	40	6,596			
2016	32	3,448			
Grand Total	123	16,025			



Photo (Top):

- Arts in Education Program, The Freeman Stage, 2018 Photo (Bottom):
- Students welcomed to The Playhouse on Rodney Square, 2019, photo by Matt Urban





Delaware Poet Laureate

Delaware's Poet Laureate is an honorary position appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the governor. The poet laureate serves as an advocate, educator, and presenter of poetry throughout the state. The Division promotes the poet laureate's events and activities, and it manages the calendar of appearances. The Division also provides a small stipend to the poet laureate for appearances at nonprofit organizations.

Delaware Poet Laureates 1949 - 2019				
Poets Laureate	Term of Service	Appointed by Governor		
Representative Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha (D) & Albert Mills, Wilmington	2015 – Present	Jack A. Markell		
Dr. JoAnn Balingit, Newark	2008 – 2015	Ruth Ann Minner		
Dr. Fleda Brown, Newark	2001 – 2007	Ruth Ann Minner		
Jean Lanyon, Wilmington	1979 – 1981*	Pierre S. duPont IV		
David Hudson, Wilmington	1975 – 1979	Sherman W. Tribbitt		
Dr. Harry O. Eisenberg, New Castle	1971 – 1975	Russell W. Peterson		
Antonia Bissell Laird, Wilmington	1969 – 1970	Charles L. Terry, Jr.		
Joyce M. Carlson, Wilmington	1967 – 1968	Charles L. Terry, Jr.		
Dr. Percival Rudolph Roberts, III, Newark	1965 – 1966	Charles L. Terry, Jr.		
Mother M. Aloysius Peach, O.S.U., Wilmington	1963 – 1965	Elbert N. Carvel		
Marguerite Eleanor Weaver, Wilmington	1962 – 1963	Elbert N. Carvel		
Alison Kimball Bradford, Wilmington	1961 – 1962	David P. Buckson		
David Hudson, Wilmington	1956 – 1960	J. Caleb Boggs		
Katherine King Johnson, Dover	1955 – 1956	J. Caleb Boggs		
Frances Shannon Flowers McNeal, Newark	1954 – 1955	J. Caleb Boggs		
Jeannette Slocomb Edwards, Wilmington	1950 – 1954	Elbert N. Carvel		
Edna Deemer Leach, Wilmington	1947 – 1949	Walter W. Bacon		

*No Poet Laureates were appointed between 1981-2001

Photos from Top Center to Bottom Right:

- Mother M. Aloysius Peach, O.S.U., Wilmington, 1963-65
- Rep. Nnamdi O. Chukwuocha & Albert Mills, Wilmington, 2015-present
- Edna Deemer Leach, Wilmington, 1947-49

Archival photos provided by Delaware Public Archives

Services to the Arts

Governor's Awards for the Arts

Governor Russell W. Peterson began the tradition of honoring Delaware artists in 1970. Since then, Delaware has paid tribute to more than 40 distinguished individuals and organizations that have had a profound and lasting impact on the state's artistic and cultural life.



- Raye Jones Avery (Arts Administration)
- Charles J. Conway (Arts Education)
- M&T Bank Arts Patron (Corporate)
- Carla Markell Arts Patron (Individual)
- Art Therapy Express (Community Engagement)
- Debora Hansen (Peggy Amsterdam Outstanding Achievement Award)

2014 - Jack A. Markell, Governor

- David Amado, (Individual Category)
- Sharon Baker, (Individual Category)
- Xiang Gao (Individual Category)
- Eunice LaFate (Individual Category)
- Billie Travalini (Individual Category)
- Joshua M. Freeman Foundation (Organization Category)
- VSA Delaware (Organization Category)
- Evelyn Swensson (Peggy Amsterdam Outstanding Achievement Award)

2010 - Jack A. Markell, Governor

- The Music School of Delaware (Organization Category)
- William M. Shea (Individual Category)
- University of Delaware Art Conservation Dept. and Winterthur Museum and Country Estate (Collaboration Category)
- Michael Kalmbach (Peggy Amsterdam Outstanding Achievement Award)

2004 - Ruth Ann Minner, Governor

- Charles Allmond, Sculptor and former attorney
- Donald Parks, Painter and professor of art at Delaware State University
- Reuben Salters, Director, Inner-City Cultural League; youth educator; and founder, Sankofa African Dancers and Drummers
- Marie Swajeski, Founder, Delaware Children's Theatre
- Cab Calloway School of the Arts, Wilmington
- Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington
- Stephen Bruni, Special "Ambassador for the Arts" Award

2002 - Ruth Ann Minner, Governor

- Congressman Michael N. Castle, Arts Advocate
- Delaware Institute for the Arts in Education, Arts Organization



- Longwood Foundation, Inc., Funding Support for the Arts
- Gonzalo Martinez, Esq., Arts Advocate
- Lynn Herrick Sharp, Patron and Advocate of the Arts
- Stephen Tanis, Visual Artist

2000 - Thomas R. Carper, Governor

- Christina Cultural Arts Center, Inc., Arts Organization
- DuPont, Corporate Patron of the Arts
- E. Jean Lanyon, Artist
- C. Lawler Rogers, Sr., Arts Educator
- Howard Schroeder, Artist Legacy Award

1998 - Thomas R. Carper, Governor

- The Brandywiners, Ltd., Arts Organization
- Philip Corrozi, Former Legislator and Arts Advocate
- Hercules Incorporated, Corporate Sponsor of the Arts
- Edward L. Loper, Sr., Visual Artist
- Cleveland Morris, Founder, Delaware Theatre Company
- Mrs. Helen Farr Sloan, Visual Artist and Patron of the Arts

1988 - Michael N. Castle, Governor

- Pamela C. Copeland, Patron of the Arts
- Delaware Art Museum
- Mildred Thornhill McGowan, Musician and Arts Educator

1984 - Pierre S. du Pont, IV, Governor

- Delaware Symphony
- William Winder "Chick" Laird, Patron of the Arts
- Eugenia Eckford Rhoads, Visual Artist and Patron of the Arts

1981 - Pierre S. du Pont, IV, Governor

- Beatrice "Bebe" Coker, Playwright and Poet
- Jack Lewis, Visual Artist
- Wilmington Opera Society (now OperaDelaware)

1973 - Russell W. Peterson, Governor

 Charles Parks, Gold Medal for Exemplary Contributions to the Arts

1970 - Russell W. Peterson, Governor

• Louise Chambers Corkan, Governor's Award for Merit in the Arts





Arts Summit

The biennial Delaware Arts Summit is produced and managed by the Division. This day-long conference includes speakers, workshops, performances, arts activities, and networking opportunities. Begun in 1997, it is open to anyone working in, or interested in, the arts, including artists; arts oganization staff, board members, and volunteers; community leaders; program planners; educators; local and state officials; and arts patrons.

Photos Clockwise from Left Page to Bottom Right Page:

- Awardees with Governor Jack Markel, First Lady Carla Markell, and Division Director Paul Weagraff, 2014 Governor's Awards for the Arts
- 2017 Arts Summit, Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process Session
- 2011 Arts Summit, Dessert Reception
- 2013 Arts Summit, Keynote Speaker Richard Blanco
- 2015 Arts Summit



Artline to DelawareScene

Since 1970, the Council has published a newsletter. First it was ARTSLETTER. Then, in 1975, ARTS CALENDAR. And finally, in 1977, ARTLINE. Issued bimonthly, ARTLINE included Council news and grant deadlines; items of local, regional, and national significance in the arts; and a statewide calendar of events.

As technology advanced, the Division migrated the ARTLINE news to email newsletters and a new online arts and cultural calendar, DelawareScene.com. This robust, user-friendly culture guide serves as an online resource promoting arts and cultural events throughout the state and surrounding communities.











Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition

Sponsored by the National Arts Program and administered by the Division, the annual Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition is open to all benefit-eligible state employees and their immediate family members. Visual arts professionals judge the work in the categories of amateur, intermediate, professional, teen, and youth.

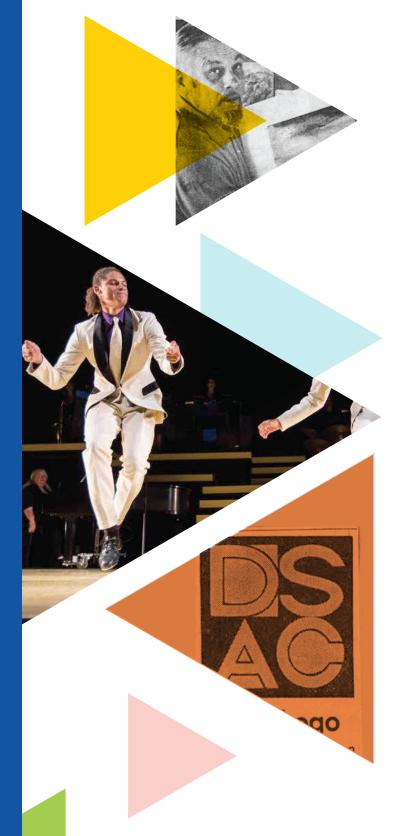
Begun in 2012, the exhibition is designed to give artists at all skill levels a unique opportunity to exhibit their original work and to compete for cash prizes. The Mezzanine Gallery at the Carvel State Office Building in Wilmington was the site of the first exhibition, and since then, it has been held at the Art Center/Gallery at Delaware State University in Dover. As of 2019, over 1,800 participants have exhibited their artwork.



National Arts Program

Photos on Left (left side, then right side):

- 2014 State Employee Exhibition, Best of Show, Faith Kuehn
- 2017 State Employee Exhibition, Best of Show, Shari Dierkes
- 2016 State Employee Exhibition, Second Place, Teen, Samantha Greim
- 2013 State Employee Exhibition, Third Place, Youth, Myles Pleasanton
- 2014 State Employee Exhibition, First Place, Youth, Abigail Bucklin



Photos Clockwise from Top Left:

- Howard Schroeder whose work was displayed in 7th Annual Delaware Artmobile, 1977
- 2018 Art in the Libraries performance
- The Delaware Contemporary, 2018
- Delaware State Arts Council Logo, 1970
- Delaware Theatre Company, Tappin' Through Life, 2016

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Delaware State Arts Council (2019)

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Donna Blakey, Dover
David Fleming, Wilmington
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Mary Ann C. Miller, Wilmington
Heather Morrissey, Newark
John T. Muller, Dover
Cheryle Pringle, Newark
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Bringing the Arts to Life

